

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mandalay/Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuges

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NEWS RELEASE

2012-2013 Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations

Refuge Manager Paul Yakupzack has announced that Bayou Teche NWR will be offering recreational hunting opportunities for the public this fall and winter. As it was last hunting season, Lottery Season Hunting permits will be required for all hunters to hunt deer with modern firearms on November 16, 17, and 18, 2012. All hunters will be required to possess a signed refuge hunting permit found on the face of the hunting brochure. All other Refuge visitors including fishermen, birders, and photographers do not need a refuge permit. However, all Refuge visitors are expected to follow all state and federal regulations including those found in the refuge brochure.

Small game and waterfowl hunters will be allowed to hunt 7 days per week **except** Archery, waterfowl, and small game hunting will **not** be allowed when the gun deer hunts are held on October 27th and 28st 2012 (Youth Only) and November 16, 17, and 18, 2012 lottery hunts.

Archery deer hunting will start on October 1, 2012 and extend through January 31, 2013, in the North Bend-East, North Bend-West, Bayou Sale, Garden City Unit and Centerville* Units only. However the harvest will be limited to **BUCKS ONLY** within the Centerville Unit (State Area 6) from October 1st through October 15th. The Franklin Unit is closed to all hunting. All hunters are encouraged to take the State Hunter Education Certification Course. All archery hunters are encouraged to participate in the International Bow Hunter Education Course. All hunters must use the daily Big Game Harvest Report cards available at Refuge Headquarters and at each refuge unit check station.

***State Regulations for Area 6**

New refuge brochures are available at the refuge office in Franklin (1725 Willow Street) and at each of the 6 refuge unit check stations. The 2012-2013 Refuge Hunting and Fishing Brochure and an application for the Quota Deer Hunt Lottery are found on our webpage at <http://www.fws.gov/bayouteche/>. For directions regarding the new Quota Deer Hunt lottery applications, click the link "Bayou Teche NWR Quota Deer Hunt Application Process". These applications will be accepted through October 12, 2012 and can be sent by mail, email, fax or hand delivered at the Mandalay NWR Office, located at 3599 Bayou Black Drive, Houma, Louisiana, 70360. Electronic applications can be emailed to: matthew_mccollister@fws.gov

For more information contact: Paul Yakupzack or Matthew McCollister at 985-853-1078

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